One CHC should cover 4 Primary health Centres, should have 30 beds, trained and qualified specialists in medicine, surgery, pediatrics, gynae and obstetrics and public health. As the establishing of CHCs comes under the purview of concerned State Governments the above criteria have not been followed strictly. As a result most of the CHCs have been established *denovo* rather than through upgradation. 12 CHCs were established in Andhra Pradesh in 1998-99 and no CHC was established in the State since then, as per information available with the Ministry.

ECT for mental patients

4858 PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Electro Convulsive Therapy (ECT) or shock Therapy is beneficial for mental patients;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that treatment for mental patients getting shock therapy is performed under sub-standard conditions due to lack of facilities; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to improve the facilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. ECT is chosen as a method of treatment for certain definite conditions such as severe depressive orders, schizophrenia and certain patients suffering from depressive disorders who do not respond to other forms of treatment such as drug treatment. In Government run mental hospitals and psychiatric units of general hospitals, ECT is given with due pre-cautions/adequate care. State Mental Health Authorities and Licensing Authorities in various States are empowered to monitor this type of treatment in licensed private psychiatric hospitals and nursing homes.

Films for creating social awareness

†4859. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the films shown during the last three years in Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana and Uttaranchal for creating social awareness;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.